

DP-309889

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DETECTING  
THE REMOVAL OF A VEHICLE ANTENNA AND  
SUBSEQUENTLY AUTHENTICATING THE USER

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A vehicle security apparatus for preventing unauthorized use of a vehicle includes an antenna communicating with at least one remote device. Detection circuitry detects damage to and/or removal of the antenna. An operator authentication device determines whether a operator has authorization to operate the vehicle. A shutdown device at least partially disables the vehicle if the detection circuitry detects the damage to and/or removal of the antenna, and if the operator authentication device determines that the operator does not have authorization to operate the vehicle.